

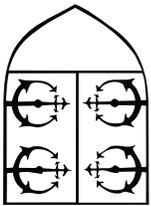
# SAINT MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## THE MESSENGER

Mailed November 21, 2013

### CONTENTS

YOUR PRAYERS . . . . .	2
CHRISTMAS TREE SALE . . . . .	2
SAMUEL BORBÓN . . . . .	2
STEWARDSHIP 2014 . . . . .	3
ECUMENICAL SERVICES . . . . .	3
ADVENT CONCERT SERIES . . . . .	3
LESSONS & CAROLS . . . . .	3
ADULT EDUCATION . . . . .	4
LANGUAGE EXCHANGE . . . . .	4
MONDAY BOOK GROUP . . . . .	4
WOMEN'S RETREAT . . . . .	4
OUTREACH & JUSTICE/ ADVOCACY ACTION . . . . .	5
IWC WORKSHOP . . . . .	6
DIVESTMENT UPDATE . . . . .	6
THE JOYFUL NEWS . . . . .	7
YOUNG ADULT GROUP . . . . .	7
CHRISTMAS RECEPTIONS . . . . .	7
TEN DAYS OF CHRISTMAS . . . . .	7
CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS . . . . .	8
ADVENT ART PARTY . . . . .	8



### DEAR FAITHFUL PARISHIONERS,

"I Have Called You Friends: *Discovering the Power to Partner with Christ*." This was the theme of our 125<sup>th</sup> Convention of The Diocese of Oregon. Our speaker was The Rev. Margaret Babcock, an Episcopal priest for over 20 years and the coach to our very own Bishop Hanley. I can understand why the Bishop has asked her to be his coach. She sees both the goodness and beauty of the Episcopal Church, and she sees the need for us to rework and revision our ministry together.

She began with a working definition of the word *power*. Power is defined as the willingness, capacity and ability to act. She used the metaphor of a raised garden bed for us to think about in terms of how we can construct a framework for new fertile ground. We learned about the four sides of the box frame: proficiency in conversation, openness to know and be known, proactive patience, and connection with God. This and more is what she unpacks in her book *New Growth in God's Garden: Transforming Congregations through Mutual Ministry*. I have just started reading it and see a deep well of resources and inspiration. As we begin Year Two in our Adult Formation cycle with *Hope Unswervingly* as our guiding principle, I intend to draw from what Babcock offers as tools to discover our own willingness, capacity and ability to act. I want to understand what motivates each of us and learn how we can act together from the places of our own distinct passions.

We will be beginning this work with the help of two new staff members. I have officially hired The Rev. James Joiner and Samuel Borbón. James is currently a transitional deacon and will be ordained a priest on Saturday, January 4, 2014, at Trinity Cathedral. Samuel Borbón was approved by our recent Vocations Conference to go through the process of being received as an Episcopal priest from the Roman Catholic Church. His process will take approximately six months. In the meantime, he is serving as a lay employee in charge of Latino Ministries. He will be preaching, providing pastoral care, and getting to know our Latino community. James is the half-time Assistant Rector focusing on pastoral care and adult formation.

Please join me in welcoming James and Samuel. There is indeed new growth in God's garden.

Faithfully,

The Rev. Christopher Craun

Main Office, <a href="mailto:office@stmaa.org">office@stmaa.org</a>	503/284-7141	Chris B. Craun, Rector	Ext. 312
CV Hartline, Associate for Ministry to Young Adults		Lynda Garner, Associate for Ministries	Ext. 316
Scott Tuomi, Music Director	Ext. 315	Leslie Sackett, Associate for Children & Families	Ext. 318
Hannah Brewer, Organist	Ext. 315	Erin Hess, Associate for Ministry with Youth	Ext. 319
Gloria Orellana, Office Administrator	Ext. 317	Linda Royal, Financial Administrator	Ext. 320

## YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED . . .

- + for healing and comfort for **Carol Beeston, Arlys Fischer, Sarah Hauser, Jim Livingston, Virginia Malone, Jean Morrison, Dick Schomburg, and Gerry Wise**
- + for the repose of the soul of **Gloria Fitzpatrick**, who died on November 9, and for her family
- + for the repose of the soul of **Charleen DeRidder**, who died on November 19, and for her daughter Tammy DeRidder in her sorrow
- + in thanksgiving for the baptism on November 24 of **Samuel Stephen Flagg**, and for his parents Alex and Rebecca Flagg and grandparents Steve and GeorgAnn Flagg.
- + in thanksgiving for the ministry of **Melissa Parkhurst**, who will share her last Sunday with us on January 5. Along with her husband David and son Oliver, Melissa will be moving to Pullman, Washington, where she and David will be starting new positions with the University of Washington.



## L'ARCHE CHRISTMAS TREE SALE



L'Arche Nehalem, a faith-based community, is proud to announce their 23rd annual Christmas Tree Benefit Sale. Our trees are locally grown and freshly cut. We always feature a wide variety

of handsome Noble and Douglas firs with sizes to fit every home, from table-top to ceiling toppers. Our volunteers are friendly and helpful; and when you buy a tree from L'Arche, you take it home knowing you are supporting a **great cause**.

Our lots open the day after Thanksgiving and run through December 22nd. You may find us at NE 44th and Hancock in the Grocery Outlet parking lot or at SE 82nd and Burnside in the Hong Phat (formerly Safeway) parking lot. Santa will be visiting the Hollywood Lot from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm on Saturdays, December 7 and 14. For more details and hours, or to find out how to volunteer, please visit our website at: [larche-portland.org/tree-sale](http://larche-portland.org/tree-sale)

## FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

On Thursday, December 12, all are invited to join our 1:00 community to celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe with a special midnight liturgy to sing *Las Mañanitas* to the Mother of God. Please join us for mariachis and a splendid meal starting at 8:00 pm, a procession at 10:30 pm, and the Eucharist beginning at 11:00 pm.

## WELCOME TO SAMUEL BORBÓN

My name is Samuel Borbón, and I'm very happy because I have been invited to participate in the community, especially within the Latino Ministry. I am blessed to have this time that will allow me to prepare for the priesthood and at the same time to grow and walk with this faith.



I was born and raised in Mexicali, Mexico, and went to seminary at the age of 14. In 2007, I was ordained a Roman Catholic priest for the Diocese of Fresno, California. I studied philosophy and theology at the seminaries of Mexicali and Tijuana, Mexico. At the end of 2010, I moved to Oregon where I was received into the Episcopalian faith in December of 2011. I have been married for three years to my wife Blanca, and we have three children: Carlos, age 10; Blanquita, age 2; and Samuelito, age five months. As a member of San Miguel, Newberg, in addition to preaching and helping as a Eucharistic Minister, I was part of the BAC (vestry).

I appreciate your trust and this opportunity to serve our church. I count on your prayers and your support to work together as one parish with different languages and cultures. Thank you very much.

— Samuel Borbón

## BIENVENIDO A SAMUEL BORBÓN

My nombre es Samuel Borbón y estoy muy contento de haber sido invitado a colaborar en esta comunidad en especial dentro del Ministerio Latino. Es una bendición el estar aquí y poder seguir preparándome para el sacerdocio además de seguir creciendo y caminando dentro de la fe.

Nací y crecí en Mexicali, México, donde ingrese al Seminario a la edad de 14 años. Fui ordenado sacerdote para la Diócesis de Fresno, California, dentro de la Iglesia Católica Romana en el año 2007. Realicé mis estudios de filosofía y teología en los Seminarios de Mexicali y de Tijuana, México. A finales del 2010, me vine a vivir a Oregon, donde fui recibido en la fe en el año 2011. He estado casado con Blance por tres años. Tenemos tres hijos: Carlos, 10 años; Blanquita, 2 años; y Samuelito, cinco meses. He estado participando activamente en la Parroquia de San Miguel Arcángel de Newberg, OR. Donde además de predicar y ayudar como Ministro Eucarístico serví en dentro del BAC (vestry).

Agradezco mucho su confianza y la oportunidad de servir en esta Iglesia. Confió en sus oraciones y apoyo para trabajar dentro de una sola parroquia con diferentes idiomas y culturas. Muchas gracias.

— Samuel Borbón

## STEWARDSHIP 2014

The 2014 Stewardship Season, which ran for six weeks, ended on Sunday, November 17. We were blessed each week to hear from members of this community sharing from their hearts about what this church and this community of Christ mean to them. Out of these personal testimonies, we were encouraged to look at our own faith journey and reflect on our commitment to God, to each other, and to this community of St. Michael's, and then pledge into our future from our abundance with gratitude and thankfulness to God.

Our 2014 Stewardship Season is continuing strong. As of Sunday, November 17, we have received 173 pledges totaling \$401,053. Our goal this year is to receive 261 pledges and average a 6.5% pledge increase from returning pledges. This would increase our budget by about \$31,000.

So we still need more pledges. If you have already submitted your pledge, thank you. If you have not submitted your pledge, please prayerfully consider pledging so that together we can accomplish our shared vision. Remember, *Time and Talent* reflect the sentiment that each parishioner is a gift to the community of St. Michael's and has unique gifts to offer. We hope and pray that we can provide a space for each member to participate as fully as they are able.

To all of you who have helped with this stewardship season, we thank you; and to all of you who have pledged or are going to pledge, we thank you as well. Let us all go forward into 2014 trusting in God's presence in us and among us and live out of that trust.

— Your Stewardship Committee

From a Forum in October:

*Stewardship and Shalom work together and live in harmony. They are packed with layers of meaning and understanding, and they are ways of living. For me, St. Francis exemplifies the way of stewardship and shalom. He took the road less traveled because he knew the one he seemingly was destined to take was not the way of shalom and stewardship. It has been said that, "Owners have rights and Stewards have responsibility." Imagine a world full of people with rights (this one is probably pretty easy), and now imagine a world full of people with responsibility.*

---

## ECUMENICAL SERVICES

There will not be an ecumenical Thanksgiving service this year with our Hollywood/Rose City community, but we encourage you to attend St. Matthew's in Parkrose on Thanksgiving morning at 10:00 am. Mother Althena Boozer will preside and preach. Donations of canned food for SnowCap Community Charities will be gratefully accepted, and the offering will be sent to Diocesan Fund for the Poor and Homeless.

## ADVENT CONCERT SERIES

The Advent Concert Series returns to St. Michael's this December with a wonderful lineup planned! Short noon-time concerts will be offered on the first three Wednesdays in December. The St. Michael's Singers' section leaders Caitlin Stave, soprano, and Michael Hilton, tenor, will present their vocal talents on December 4. Melissa Parkhurst, our soon-departing leader of Takes the Fifth Choir and Band, will offer a wonderful solo piano program on December 11. Finally, the December 18 concert will be presented by the Wildwood Consort led by special guest Michael Wilhite and featuring Hannah Brewer on harpsichord.



Each of these brief concerts will be followed by a light lunch. Anyone wishing to help organize the lunches is encouraged to contact Hannah Brewer at [hannahcbrewer@gmail.com](mailto:hannahcbrewer@gmail.com).

Please consider coming to enjoy fellowship and music-making of the highest quality. A free-will offering will be accepted at the concerts to support our music ministry and, in particular, the completion of our own harpsichord for use during services and other special events. More details coming soon!

— Hannah Brewer, Organist

---

## LESSONS & CAROLS

Come and celebrate the beauty of the Lessons & Carols service, a traditional Anglican Christmas service, with the congregation and choir of St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church.



The service is an intimate gathering of community, featuring nine readings interspersed with traditional carols and other Christmas music sung by the 40+ voices of St. Michael's Singers. The choir will be performing works by Howells, Victoria, and Hassler along with carols and hymns all revolving around the Fall of Man, the Foretelling of the Messiah, and the Birth of Jesus.

The service is on Saturday, December 14, at 7:00 pm and is open and free to the public. Please join us for this very special holiday event!

— Scott Tuomi, Music Director

We will be sharing an ecumenical Epiphany service with several neighborhood churches, including Rose City Presbyterian, Augustana Lutheran, and Rose City United Methodist. St. Michael's will host this gathering on Wednesday, January 8, at 7:30 pm. The Three Kings will make an appearance, of course, and we'll enjoy Epiphany cake after the service together.

## ADULT EDUCATION THIS WINTER

We're entering a new year together at St. Michael & All Angels. With the season of Advent comes the beginning of a second year in our current three-year adult education cycle, themed *Hope Unswervingly*. Having explored our trust and faith in God with retreats, book groups, an art show and our own creed, we now turn to explore our hope. In whom or what do we hope as Christians? What does it mean for us today to "place our hope in Christ"? What effect does our hope for what may lie beyond this life have on the life we live here, together, now? Our education and formation offerings over the next few months will begin addressing these questions.

At the same time, we're also exploring new ways of asking these questions together. This winter, we'll offer a "hybrid" class, a small group that meets partially online and partially in person. Part of this is in the hope of addressing the time constraints we all have. It's also an effort to engage one another as individual learners with multiple interests and needs who work together in a learning community. So what is it that you want to learn? What will help you grow in Christ this season? We hope you'll let us know so we can grow together this year.

The seasons of Advent and Christmas call our attention to some of the prophetic words and figures who surrounded Jesus at his birth. During the last three Sunday Forums of December, we'll look at some of these pioneers of Christian hope through the songs attributed to them in Luke's Gospel. The songs of Zechariah, Mary, and Simeon were so important to parts of the early church that they were recited daily in the monastic cycle of psalm-recitation prayer. What place might they have for our own daily prayer lives? What ancient gems of prayer and contemplation are waiting for us in this sacred poetry?

We'll explore each of these passages by "Dwelling in the Word," which is a way of studying the Bible in community that involves both instructional content and reflective practice. For each adult Forum, we'll explore the passage with some historical-critical context, some artistic and musical representations, and plenty of time to discuss what certain words or passages bring up for us. We're sure to come away with a renewed appreciation for these classics of Christian praise and prayer and a deeper sense of our own place in the culture of hope we aim to cultivate together.

— James Joiner



## LANGUAGE EXCHANGE CONTINUES!

Please join us on Thursdays from 7:00-8:00 pm here in the Parish Hall or, occasionally, the mural area to practice your Spanish and help others practice their English. This is a casual, drop-in gathering; all levels are welcome. Please note there will be no gatherings on November 28 and December 26.

## MONDAY BOOK GROUP

The Monday Book Group met on November 19 to discuss the last chapters of *Anam Cara*. Our next meeting will be held on Monday, December 2, at 12:30 pm in the Parish Hall, and will be focused on planning.

It has been suggested that we bring poems or paragraphs that will help us find a theme we would like to have for this group. Each one could bring a sentence, a paragraph, a poem, a drawing, a bit of music, etc., to illustrate a personal point of view about our hopes for the group. Do we want the Monday group as a place to share and discuss material and reactions/feelings we might have in no other forum? To give ourselves a reason to read topics we might otherwise avoid? Is this a small group that helps us develop a sense of community because of our commitment to the readings and to attending? Do we want to have criteria to make selections or just let the spirit guide us and see what happens?

There isn't a "right" answer, but it will be valuable to have the discussion. Please plan to bring your thoughts and your sense of humor so we can have a lively, inspired chat on Monday, December 2. Newcomers are always welcome!

— Susan Long

## SPIRITUAL GROWTH, ART & LAUGHTER

Twenty-five women from St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church gathered at Menucha Retreat Center high above the Columbia River Gorge for the weekend of October 18-20. Retreat Director Susan Long, Religious Advisor Rector Chris Craun, and Music Guide Sundance Henry led us through the experience. The usual stereotype of a religious retreat implies deep silences, heavy sighs, and surreptitious tears from aging eyes. This one shattered the stereotype — just blew it to pieces.

Susan used the title of Anne Lamott's book *Help, Thanks, Wow!* to open the hearts and minds of the retreatants through creating art. The non-artistic group members left skid marks as they were dragged into the art room, but the epiphany followed when each woman realized that she had created four works of art. The three larger combined pieces were exhibited at the St. Michael's Art Show in November.

The unusual elements of this retreat contributed to its success. Walking together or in solitude in the beauty of God's creation in the Columbia River Gorge or praying the labyrinth enhanced the spiritual guidance given by Susan. The makeup of the group could have been divisive — the ages ranged from great-grandmothers to a soon-to-be mother — but the interactions between the age groups became one of the pleasures of the retreat. The spiritual growth was evident to each retreatant, and finally, the laughter — present everywhere, all the time.

— Mickey Harnage

## OUTREACH & JUSTICE MINISTRIES/ ADVOCACY ACTION

### ALTERNATIVE GIFT CATALOG

Does Uncle Fred really need another tie? What size does Bella take? What shall I choose for someone who has everything? The holidays are creeping up on us, and quickly! But there is a solution to some of those dilemmas. The Alternative Gift Catalog will once again be available for you to choose to give gifts that will benefit organizations which do a great deal of good. Look for a display in the Gallery for the next five Sundays. Each display will highlight one of the organizations and what it does. On November 24, look for a display featuring Health Care for All Oregon (HCAO). Come and learn what we can do to insure that all Oregonians have good health care at a reasonable cost.

On December 1, catalogs will be available for you to go shopping. No crowds, no hassle, just knowing that what we do will benefit people who are in need of our help. What a gift to give in the names of those who already have everything they need!

### SUPPLIES FOR NICARAGUA

A group of parishioners is headed to Nicaragua this January to assist in construction of a bathhouse. St. Michael's has actively supported the nonprofit group El Porvenir for the past thirteen years by sending work teams as well as sponsoring fundraising events.

El Porvenir means "the future" in Spanish. This organization focuses on water, sanitation and reforestation projects in remote parts of Nicaragua, where clean water is critical to the health and the future of the community.

St. Michael's will be collecting Spanish-language reading material, school supplies and baseball equipment for the group to take with them. Please bring your offerings to the collection box in the Gallery during December. Contact Kathy Bang at [bang.katherine@gmail.com](mailto:bang.katherine@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

### KEYSTONE XL PIPELINE

Two additional members of the St. Michael's Advocacy Action committee have taken the pledge and the training in non-violent resistance to the Keystone XL pipeline. We have also participated in a meeting of the 350.pdx organization to coordinate activities and share experience.

In the event that the State Department issues a favorable "national impact statement," President Obama will have approximately two weeks in which to decide whether or not he will approve entry of the pipeline into the U.S. During that period, those who have taken the training will be able to demonstrate opposition by blocking entry to at least four critical sites in the Portland area. This action would most likely result in the arrest of willing participants, although there are activities that do not involve a risk of arrest and participants are welcome to choose those activities. While additional trainings have not been scheduled for Portland, there will be several local events at which any interested person can take part.

This is a chance to speak out and take action to protect God's creation. Please check [www.350.org](http://www.350.org) for more information.

### EPISCOPAL RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT



**EPISCOPAL**  
Relief and Development

A major typhoon hit the central Philippines on November 8. Over 3,000,000 people were left homeless and without electricity, food, and clean water. Episcopal Relief & Development is working with partner agencies to bring in supplies and begin cleanup and redevelopment.

Donations may be made through St. Michael's — write "ERD" in the memo line of your check — or you can find out more and donate directly at [www.er-d.org](http://www.er-d.org).

### TESSMAN FAMILY NEWS

Team Two from St. Michael's, in partnership with New City Initiative and Portland Homeless Family Solutions, has been meeting with our family on a regular basis since August. The housewarming party on October 10 went very well, and several parishioners came to join in the fun. Thanks to the enthusiasm of the entire family, the home was all decked out with fall and Halloween decorations! We enjoyed warm cider, and lots of treats. The children (Adonis, Orion, Kadence, and McKenna) are all settled into school and child-care programs while Mom and Dad are working hard during the day. Lynneah continues to complete her cosmetology certification at school, and Donny has been promoted several times at the Fairview plastics recycling center.

We are planning a holiday party for the family, so stay tuned. We hope to have a date shortly, and it will be printed in the bulletin. The family has asked for PayLess gift cards so they can buy boots for the three boys. The family would also LOVE to have a 22" pancake griddle to feed those hungry kids.

We have been working with the family to establish goals, and they are doing well with the challenges they have faced in such difficult economic times. In terms of "Time and Talent," the family is thinking about how parishioners might help them; and they have said they want to stay in touch after our six-month "commitment" ends in February, 2014. The family is trying to decide whether to repair their second vehicle (a van) or find a different vehicle to carry all six of them. Please think about "Time and Talent" offerings you might be able to offer, and feel free to contact any of us on the team: Barb Miller, Christine Lentz, Alex Granat, Amy Geoffroy, and Alison Lentz.

### PORCH LIGHT/STREET LIGHT COOKING PARTY

Mark your calendars for a cooking party on Sunday, December 15, at 3:00 pm to provide lasagna for the Porch Light and Street Light shelters for homeless teens. More details to follow.

— Articles on this page were contributed by Lynn Baker, Kathy Bang, Susan Barnett, Alice Hardesty, Christine Lentz, and Meg Ruby

## IWC ACCOMPANIMENT WORKSHOP

### COMPANION: ONE WHO EATS OF THE SAME BREAD

On October 5, 30 participants from St Michael & All Angels Church and the larger community met to hear the stories of several people who have walked with our immigrant brothers and sisters through the process of deportation proceedings. Ravi Ragbir and his wife, Amy Gottlieb, joined us from New York to share their experiences — both personally, as they continue to deal with Ravi’s own immigration battle, and as the organizers of a group of volunteers who accompany people through their process with the immigration detention system. Alice Vetter, Peter Parks and Sarah Loose shared their experiences in our own community.



Participants came away with a clearer idea of what accompaniment is (bearing witness and walking with someone in this process) and what it is not

(counseling, social work, legal assistance). Presenters clarified the history, process and players of our immigration system, including the 1996 changes in the law requiring mandatory detentions without eligibility for a bond hearing or right to counsel and limiting the possibility for judicial discretion. They also discussed the sometimes bitter reality of accompaniment in that not all people we walk with will avoid deportation and that any noncitizen, even with a green card, is at increased risk of deportation.

Comments heard throughout the day included the following:

*It’s quite possible and likely to have a relationship with someone whose language you do not speak.*

*You need to determine for yourself what level of involvement you are comfortable with. Do what you can, and it will be enough.*

*St Michael’s can benefit tremendously by developing relationships with others doing this work. We can be partners, and not have to do it all to be successful.*

*I came away feeling like we can do this now with the resources we already have in place.*

Accompaniment is a gift of presence, and there are many ways to be involved. The IWC team continues to meet to clarify our process at St Michael’s. We welcome all who are interested to our meetings, which happen every second Thursday. Meanwhile, the Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice (IMIrJ) meets the second Tuesday of each month in St. Michael’s House, with educational programs and information about opportunities to be involved in the larger community. You can connect with their Immigrant Support Network, which organizes letter-writing and accompaniment, by contacting IMIrJ at portlandsanctuary@gmail.com.

— Anna Zeigler for the IWC Team

## DIVESTMENT UPDATE

### DIOCESE OF OREGON TO CONSIDER DIVESTMENT FROM FOSSIL FUEL COMPANIES

With the leadership of GreenFaith, 350.org, and other non-profit organizations, a movement to divest from the 200 largest fossil fuel companies is taking hold



nationally. Divestment involves the selling of stocks, bonds, and mutual funds or other pooled investments if the stocks, bonds or investment vehicles include the largest fossil fuel companies in the world. Approximately 56 institutions have decided to divest so far, including religious institutions, cities, colleges and universities, and foundations.

Divestment is a last resort. Unfortunately, shareholder resolutions and other actions taken to encourage fossil fuel companies to expand and transition their businesses into renewable sources of energy have failed. Additionally, fossil fuel companies have engaged in disinformation to create doubt about climate-change science and the efficacy of climate solutions. Fossil fuel companies have tremendous political power, which they have used to maintain their privileged economic status under existing laws. Finally, the known reserves of the leading fossil fuel companies are three to five times larger than the amount that can be burned without risking extremely dangerous climate change. If we burn all known fossil fuel reserves, our most accomplished climate scientists are virtually certain it would lead to catastrophic climate change.

Divestment is a moral action intended to align investments with values. Among our relevant values are our baptismal covenants: to seek and serve Christ in all persons; to strive for justice and peace among all people and to respect the dignity of every human being. Climate change affects everyone. It is here now and getting worse, but its most immediate and devastating impacts will be to persons in the developing world, the poor, women, and children. Additionally, good stewardship requires respect for The Creation: “And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good,” Gen. 1:31. Finally, the ECUSA called all Episcopalians to work for the just transformation of the world’s energy supplies away from fossil fuels toward safe, renewable, community controlled energy, and to protect fossil fuel workers during the transition to a post-carbon society. Divestment is one strategy to answer this call.

At the Diocesan Convention, the delegates passed a resolution to study divestment from fossil fuel companies with the intention of moving toward divestment and to adopt socially responsible investment opportunities for the Diocese over the next three to five years. The Environmental Commission and Investment Committee will be working together to implement the resolution.

— Peter Sergienko

## THE JOYFUL NEWS NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2013

Children & Families Ministry is getting ready to celebrate the new church year with the upcoming Advent Fair on Sunday, December 1, during the 10 o'clock hour in the Nativity Hall. You won't want to miss the fun, hands-on crafts for kids and the chance to create your family's own Advent Wreath with fresh greens donated by members of the congregation. Thanks in advance to all of you who are bringing clippings from your yard and garden to share with others!

**All children in the congregation are invited to participate in the Nativity Play**, which is a St. Michael's tradition at the 4:00 pm Christmas Eve liturgy. This one-hour family-friendly service is a joyous beginning to the Christmas Season that captures the magic and wonder of God's love being born in our hearts and in our very midst. Elementary-age students interested in a particular role can pick up a script when they come to Godly Play on Sunday morning. Sign-ups for Angels, Shepherds, Innkeepers, Kings, Mary and Joseph and all the Animals in the Manger will begin on Sunday, November 24. Parent support is especially needed on Saturday, December 21, and Monday, December 23, during the play and music rehearsals. For more information, please contact Leslie Sackett, [leslies@stmaa.org](mailto:leslies@stmaa.org).

The Holiday Party for local children in Foster Care is happening at a new location this year to provide better parking and easier access for families dropping off and picking up young children. **St. Michael's is still supporting the Holiday Party by collecting Teddy Bears, toys and other gifts from December 1 – 15** in the Gallery. These items will be distributed to the children at the Holiday Party on Tuesday, December 17. Thank you, St. Michael's, for your generous love and support of all God's children!

— Leslie Sackett, Associate for Ministry to Children & Families

---

## YOUNG ADULT GROUP UPDATE

Our second Y(oung) A(dult)fall gathering on October 17 at the Hawthorne Lucky Lab was a great informal meet'n'greet. We will continue to meet the third Thursday of every month at the Lucky Lab to connect with one another. Please mark your calendars for Thursday, November 21, at 7:00 pm for our next gathering.

The Young Adult Salmon Grill Party took place at the Hartline House on October 26. Much fun was had by all, and the time together was full of laughter.

Plans are still in the works for a post-holiday (Christmas/New Years) gathering called *Warmth of Friends*. Please contact CV if you would like to host a small gathering of 6-8 people in your home in January or February.

Aloha and Mahalo,

— CV Hartline, Associate for Ministry to Young Adults

## GIFT GUIDE FOR FOSTER CARE CHILDREN'S PARTY

### Toys

- Stuffed animals - all ages
- Early-childhood toys for ages 0-3
- Dolls ages 3-8
- Trucks ages 3-8
- Board games, puzzles ages 7-13
- Craft- & jewelry-making kits
- Hand-held electronics (I Pods, MP3 players)

### Personal Items and clothing

- Girls, 12-18 Body care (deodorant, hair brushes, hair ties, nail polish, toothpaste, toothbrush, shower gel, make up)
- Boys, 12-18 Body care (deodorant, body spray, comb or brush, toothpaste, toothbrush, shower gel)
- Nike shoes - mostly for teens
- Adidas shoes - mostly for teens
- Hoodies of all colors - ages 7-18

### Gift Cards, ages 13-18

- \$10 to Subway, McDonalds, Starbucks, Burger King, I-Tunes, Claire's
- \$15 to Barnes & Noble, Powell's Books
- \$20 to Fuego, Old Navy, Target, Ross, Marshall's, Forever 21

---

## CHRISTMAS RECEPTIONS

Christmas receptions are just around the corner. Traditionally, we have a warm and friendly time after each service to visit with one another over light refreshments. As always, several volunteers — each doing a small part — make these events possible. Would you be able to help in the kitchen or bring some sweet or savory holiday treats? Sign-up sheets will be on the table in the Gallery.

Never underestimate the importance of our hospitality ministry at St Michael's! Our festive receptions provide an opportunity to celebrate, to welcome the stranger, and to nurture friendships. They strengthen our community. Again, thanks so much again to all of you who make them possible.

— Lynda Garner

---

## TEN DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

Would you like to spread holiday cheer to those who are in need of a caring thought and gesture? If you answered yes, please come join the Pastoral Care Committee and put together gift bags on Saturday, December 14, in the Parish Hall from 9:30 am until noon. If you are able, please bring your own tape and scissors, and some small gifts (\$1.00-\$2.50 range). We are hoping to put together 25 gift bags with ten gifts in each bag. All donations are welcome. If you are not able to join us, feel free to drop off the gifts (labeled "10 Days of Christmas") in the church office. The gift bags will be given to individuals and families in our church. If you would like additional information, please contact Jonelle at [Jonelle@spiritone.com](mailto:Jonelle@spiritone.com) or 503/408-1758.

—Jonelle Phelps

ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1704 NE 43rd Avenue  
Portland, OR 97213-1402

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday  
9am to 4pm



Non Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 554  
Portland, OR

**CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS**

- NOV. 23           **Craft Fair**
- NOV. 24           **Healthcare Forum**
- NOV. 26           **Episcopal 101 concludes**
- DEC. 1             **Advent Fair**
- DEC. 3             **Advent Art Party**
- DEC. 4, 11, 18   **Noontime Advent Concerts**
- DEC. 8             **Forum: Ministries Team**
- DEC. 12           **Our Lady of Guadalupe celebration**
- DEC. 14           **Lessons & Carols**
- DEC. 15           **Porch/Street Light cooking party**
- DEC. 15, 22, 29 **Forum: Pioneers of Christian Hope**
- DEC. 20           **Las Posadas**
- DEC. 24           **Services at 4:00, 6:00, 8:00 (en español), & 10:30 pm**
- DEC. 25           **Service at 10:00 am**



**ADVENT ART PARTY**

There was a time in most of our lives when it didn't matter whether we were skilled in a particular craft or not. We just made art because... well, typically because we were students in a classroom and we had to. Still, there's something

therapeutic about handprint turkeys and cut-out snowflakes. That's why we're kicking off Advent with an Art Party on Tuesday, December 3, at 6:30 pm. Rather than handprint turkeys or fold and cut snowflakes, we'll be making mini-Hope Chests to get our creative juices flowing around our new educational theme for the year ahead: *Hope Unswervingly*. While Hope Chests have traditionally been used to prepare for marriage, ours will use collage and decoupage to help us meditate on what God's next big thing among us may be.

Your crafting skills are not nearly as important here as the opportunity to take a break from a busy season to have some thoughtful fun with friends, and the project is adaptable to youth and school-age kids if you want to bring the family along. Sign up in the Gallery, or call the office to let us know you're coming. Bring a holiday snack to share if you'd like.

— James Joiner